

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 DRC-01

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TAGS: PFOR CY US GR

SUBJ: MEDIA COMMENT ON U.S. POSITION RE CYPRUS

1. SUMMARY: NEWS MEDIA AUGUST 22 REPORTED THAT OFFICIAL CIRCLES COMMENTED THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER IN AUGUST 19 NEWS CONFERENCE MISINTERPRETED SPONTANEOUS CHARACTER OF POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS AND UNDERESTIMATED BITTERNESS OF GREEKS ARISING FROM CONVICTION THAT U.S. FAILED TO DISPLAY SUFFICIENT INTEREST AT TIME OF GREEK CRISIS. EDITORIAL IN ELEFTHEROS COSMOS OBSERVED DR. KISSINGER TURNED HIS BACK ON GREECE WHICH LED GREECE TO WITHDRAW MILITARY FROM NATO AND PRODUCED WAVE OF ANTI-AMERICANISM DESPITE STRONG BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN BOTH NATIONS. AKROPOLIS' EDITORIAL NOTED THAT MANY U.S. CONGRESSMEN OPPOSE U.S. POLICY AS DO U.S. NEWSPAPERS WHICH REFLECT VIEWS OF MAJORITY OF AMERICANS URGING CHANGE IN U.S. POLICY TO SUPPORT RIGHTS OF CYPRIOTS AND GREECE. END SUMMARY.

2. ATHENS NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO REPORTED PROMINENTLY "OFFICIAL CIRCLES" REACTION TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
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PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 19. SEMI-OFFICIAL ANA BULLETIN

CARRIED SAME ITEM. ACCORDING TO "OFFICIAL CIRCLES"
KISSINGER'S STATEMENT THAT U.S. WAS WILLING TO
STRENGTHEN COMMON ALLIANCE TIES AND TO HELP GREEK
GOVERNMENT IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE BUT WOULD NOT BE
PRESSURED BY THREATS OF WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ALLIANCE
OR ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATIONS MISINTERPRETED
SPONTANEOUS CHARACTER OF POPULAR DEMONSTRATIONS AND
DANGEROUSLY UNDERESTIMATED EXTENT OF BITTERNESS
FELT BY GREEK PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY GREEK YOUTH, ARISING
FROM CONVICTION THAT U.S. HAS NOT DISPLAYED
SUFFICIENT ALLIED INTEREST AT MOMENT OF GREAT TRIAL
FOR GREECE. SAME CIRCLES ARE QUOTED AS SAYING
WITHDRAWAL OF GREEK FORCES FROM NATO DID NOT CONSTITUTE
A PRESSURING MANEUVER AS SECRETARY KISSINGER APPARENTLY
BELIEVES BUT REFLECTED GOG POLICY DECISION AS
MATTER OF NECESSITY BECAUSE OF NATO'S FAILURE TO AVERT
DANGER OF CONFLICT BETWEEN TWO ALLIED, NEIGHBORING
COUNTRIES.

3. EDITORIAL IN ELEFTHEROS COSMOS AUGUST 22 HITS
HARD AT U.S. POLICY. "DR. KISSINGER GAVE HIS BLESSING
TO ECEVIT'S ATILIA PLAN WHICH AIMED AT SEIZURE OF
CYPRUS." EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ALEXANDRA STEFANOPOULOU
ADDED THAT WHILE GREECE HAS ALWAYS CONSIDERED U.S. IS
NATURAL SUPPORT, DR. KISSINGER FOUND TURKEY MORE
INDISPENSABLE TO HIS AIMS AND TURNED HIS BACK ON
GREECE. RESULTS WERE GREECE'S WITHDRAWAL FROM
MILITARY SIDE OF NATO AND WAVE OF ANTI-AMERICANISM.
STEFANOPOULOU CONCLUDED "WE ARE SORRY AMERICAN PEOPLE
ARE AGAIN UNJUSTLY BEING DEFAMED INTERNATIONALLY---
WE HAVE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP WITH AMERICAN PEOPLE---
AND WE WISH THAT PRESIDENT FORD MAY REALIZE WHILE
THERE IS STILL TIME THE MISTAKE OF THE POLICY HE HAS
FOLLOWED AND PREVENT WORSE DEVELOPMENTS." AKROPOLIS
EDITORIAL AUGUST 22, COMMENTING ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S
MESSAGE TO PM CARAMANLIS, WROTE THAT MANY U.S.
CONGRESSMEN OPPOSE SECRETARY KISSINER'S PRO-TURKISH
POLICY AND SEEK SUSPENSION OF U.S. AID TO TURKEY.
IT CONCLUDED THAT INFLUENCE OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND
PRESS WHICH REFLECTS TRUE U.S. SENTIMENTS CANNOT BE
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IGNORED BY WHITE HOUSE AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. TASCA

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Message Attributes

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